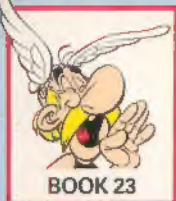


HODDER DARGAUD PRESENTS



BOOK 23

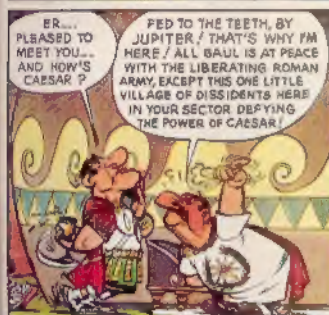
TEXT: GOSCINNY

DRAWINGS: UDERZO

Asterix

and the BANQUET





PEACE REIGNS IN THE GAULISH VILLAGE AS WELL... IT REIGNS TOO HARD FOR THE LIKES OF SOME...



HEY, ASTERIX, THE ROMANS AREN'T ATTACKING US ANY MORE... DO YOU THINK WE'VE ANNOYED THEM?

DON'T LET IT WORRY YOU... WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED DELIVERING MEMPHIS, WHY DON'T WE HUNT SOME ROADS?

SOON AFTERWARDS IN THE FOREST...

SUPPOSE WE WROTE TO THE ROMANS?



WE COULD EXPLAIN THAT...

SSH!

YOU COWARDLY LOT! YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT A HANDFUL OF GAULS COULD RESIST YOU?



DON'T MAKE SO MUCH NOISE, O OVERANKIUS, OR YOU'LL ALERT THE WHOLE HANDFUL!

IT'S THE ROMANS!!!

GOODY!



COME ON, WE MUST TELL THE OTHERS!

MUST WE? WHY NOT JUST DIVIDE THEM BETWEEN US? NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW...



OBELIX, YOU'RE BEING VERY SELFISH! THE OTHERS HAVE A RIGHT TO THEIR BIT OF FUN! ROMANS ARE COMMON PROPERTY.



SO COME ALONG!

IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME! IT'S NOT FAIR, IT JUST ISN'T FAIR... IF THEY WANT ROMANS, WHY CAN'T THEY GO AND FIND SOME OF THEIR OWN...?



A LITTLE LATER...

NOW THEN, NO SHOVING / STAND IN LINE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE!

THERE'S NO NEED TO PUSH... THERE'LL BE PLENTY TO GO ROUND.

ONLY THREE OR FOUR EACH, THAT'S ALL... WILL YOU LEND ME YOURS, ASTERIX?

COME ON, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? CHARGE, MEN! CHARGE!

MUMMY!



YOU CAN STOP ARGUING, THEY'RE OFF.

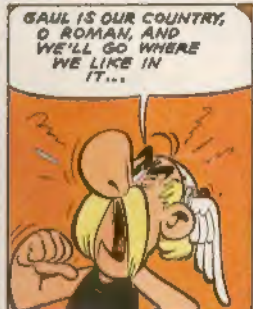
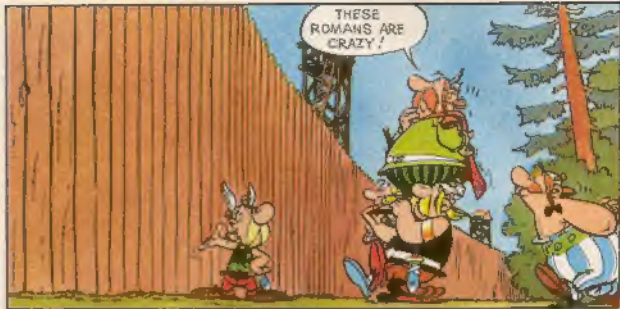
?!?

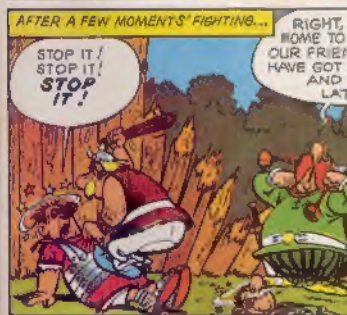
NO! NO! COME BACK! OH, PLEASE COME BACK!

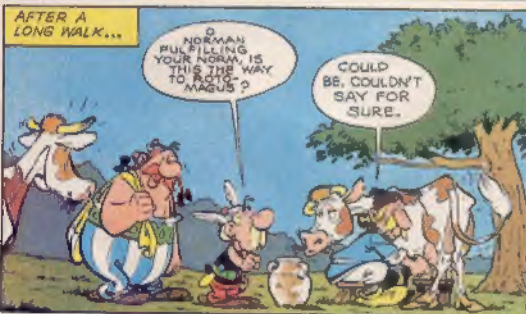
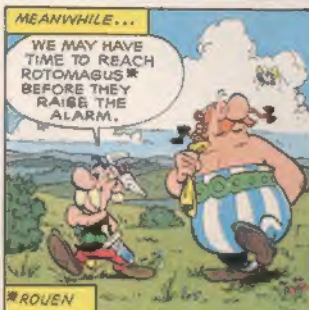
IF WE'VE QUITE FINISHED, MAY I LEAVE THE BATTLEFIELD?

CHEN CHEN CHEN CHEN CHEN
CHEN CHEN CHEN CHEN CHEN

LET'S
HOPE
YOU'RE
RIGHT

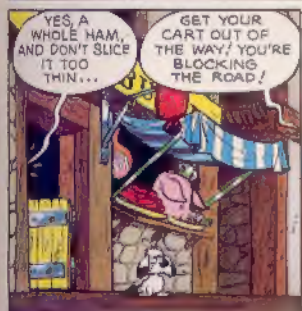
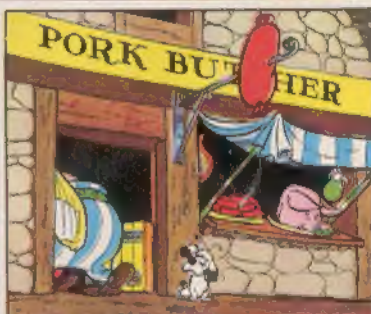


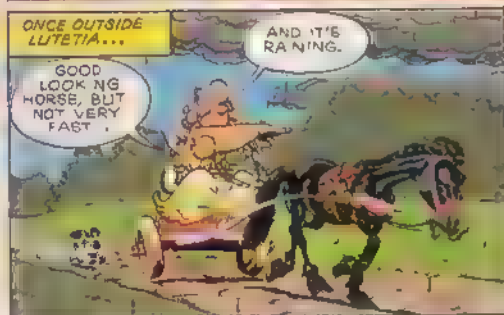
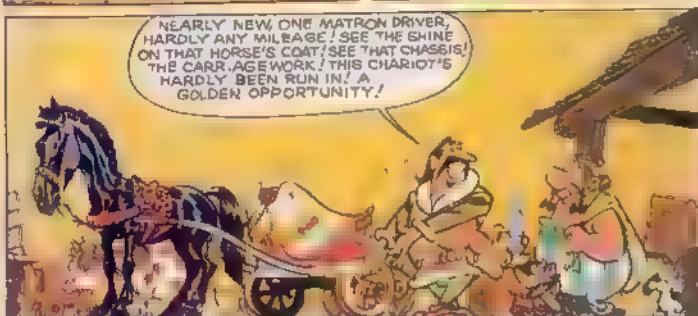
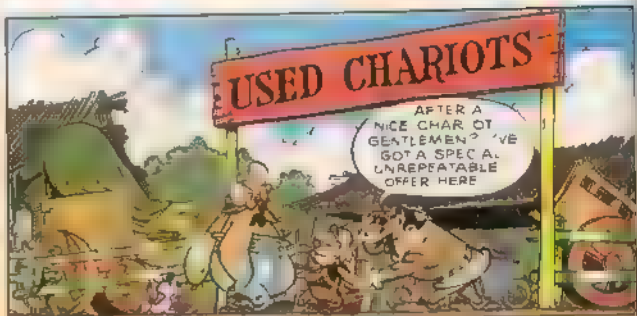
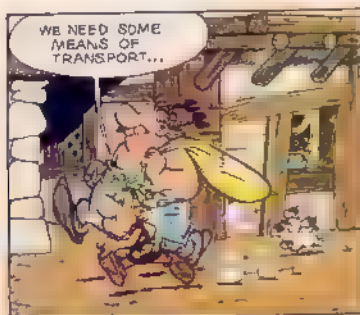


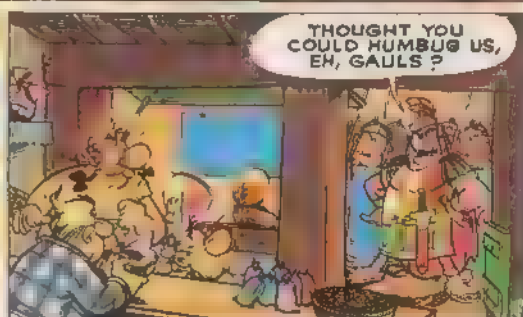


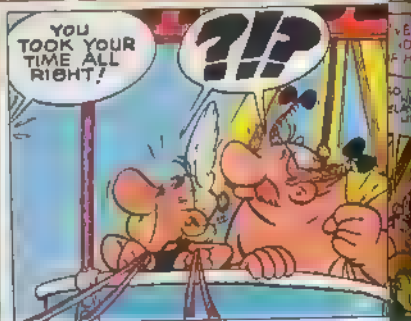
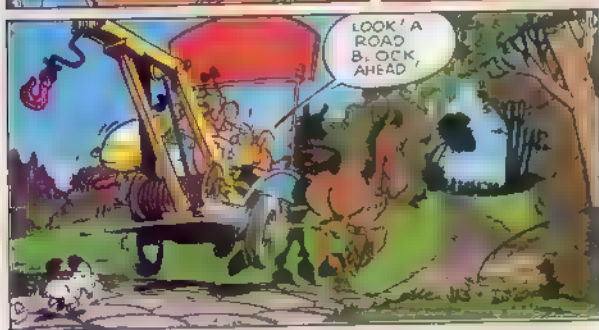
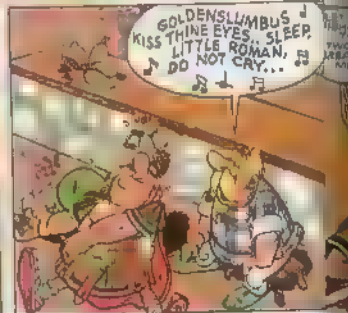
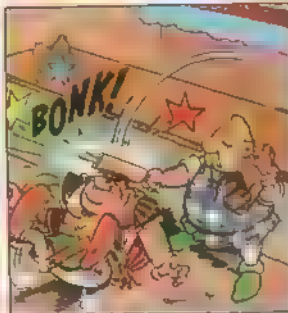
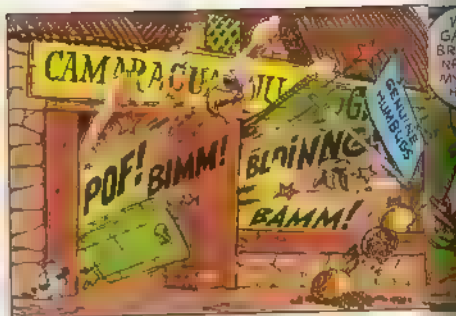


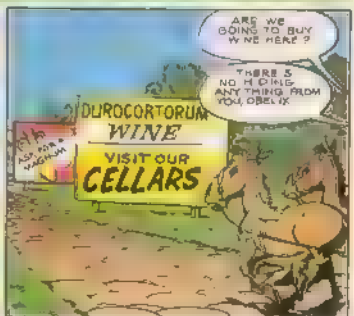
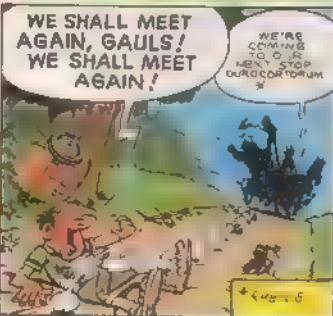
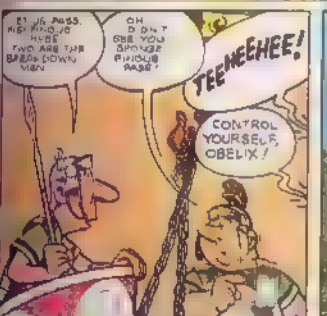
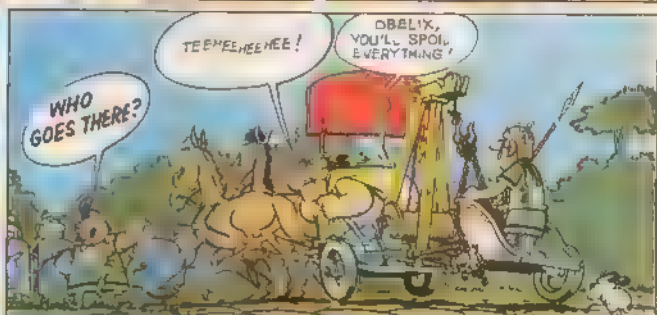
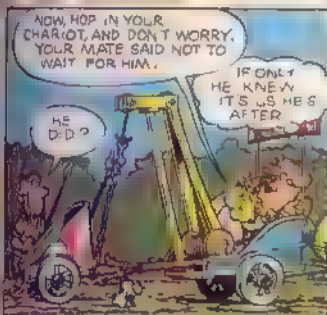
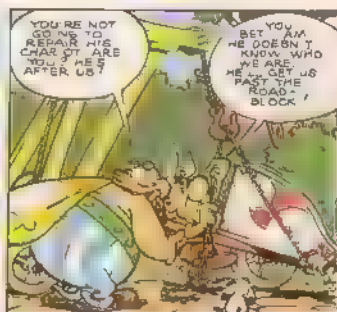
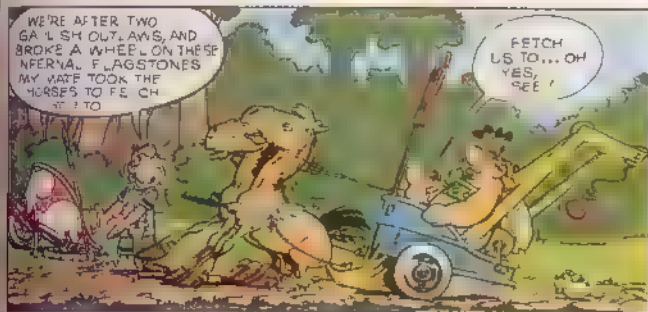


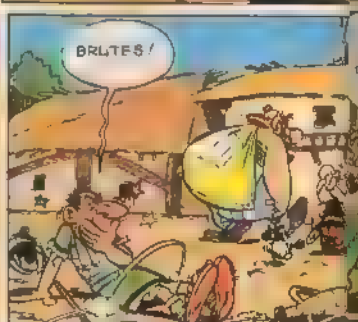
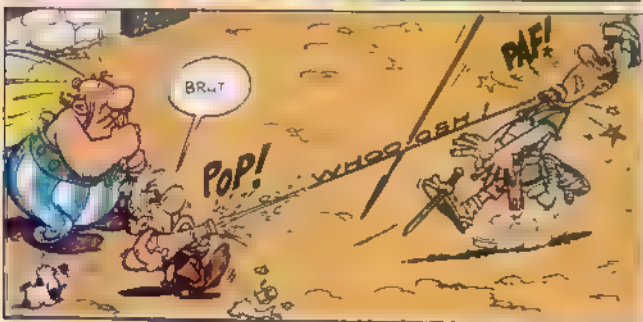
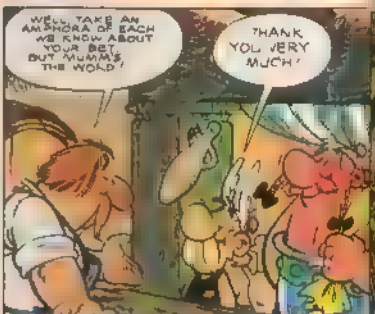
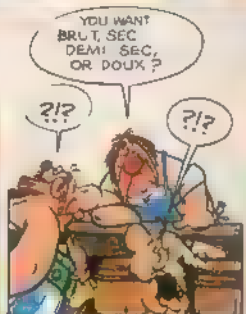
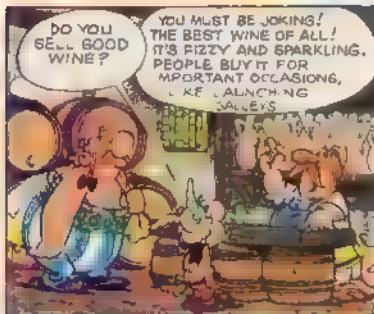


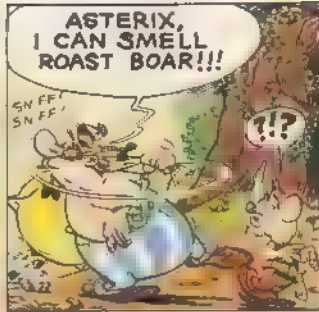
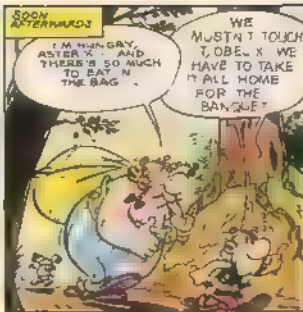
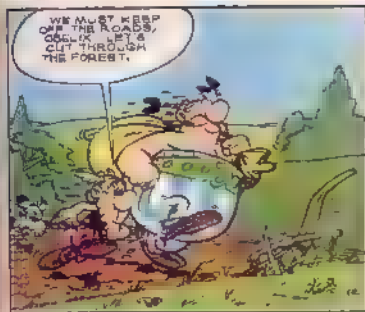


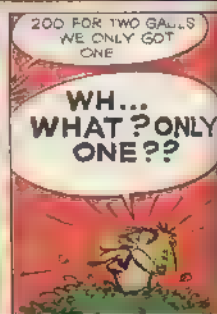
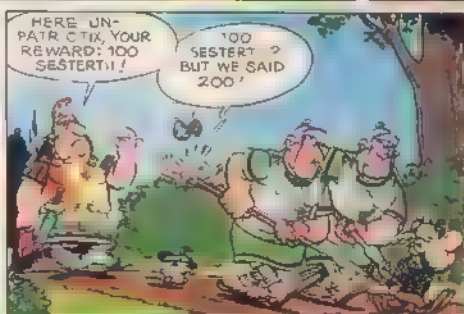
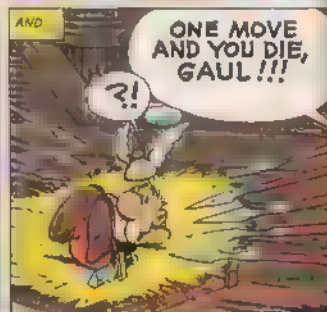
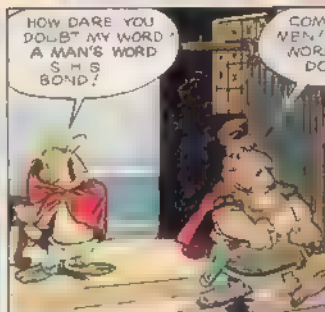
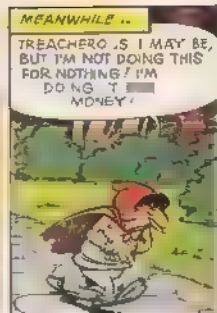
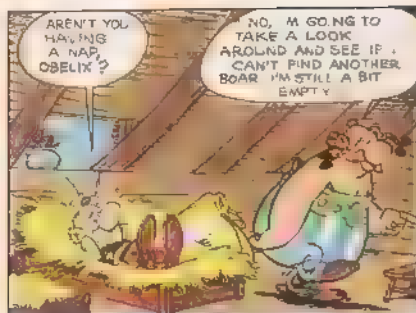


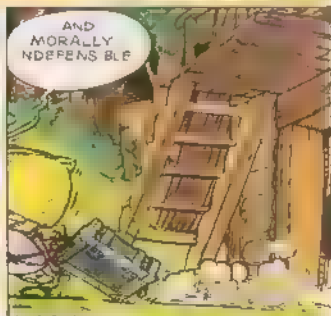
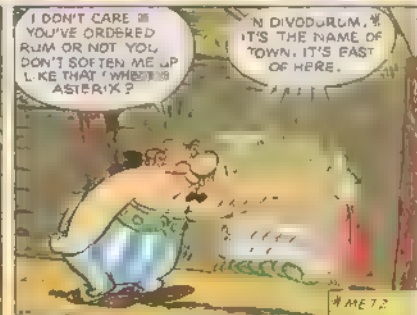
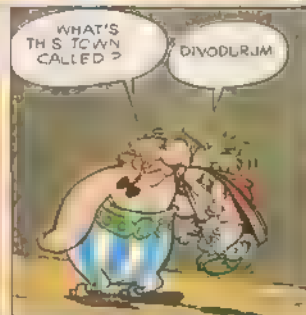
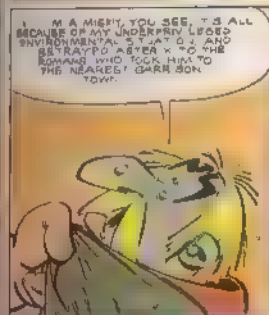
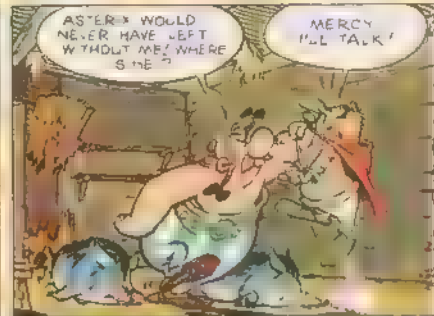
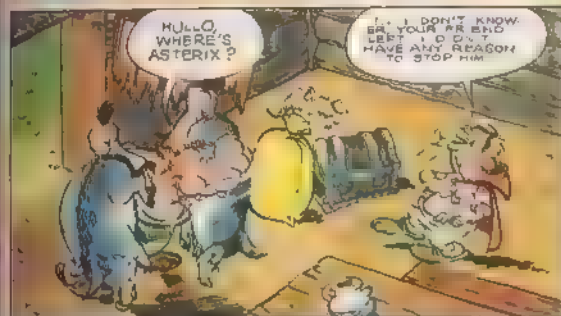


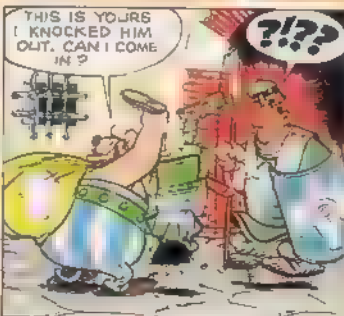
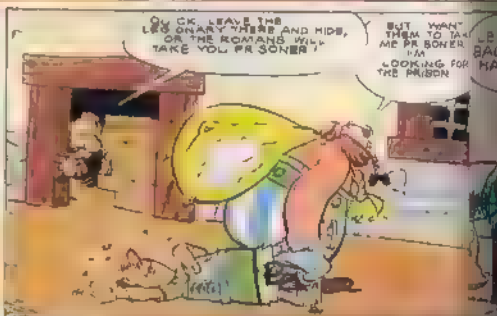
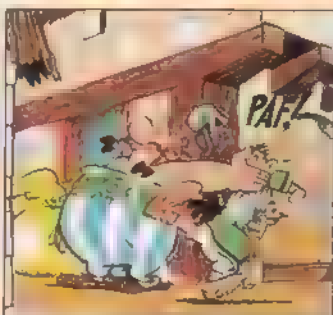
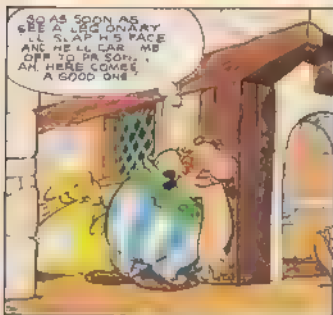
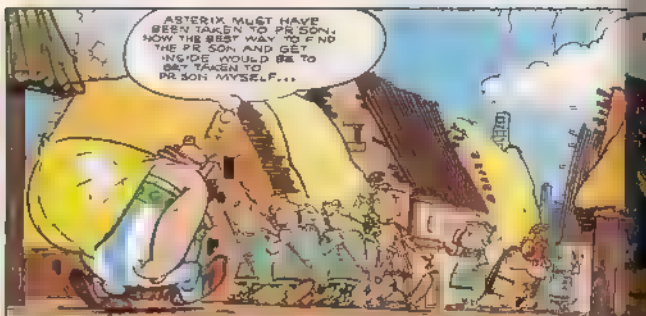
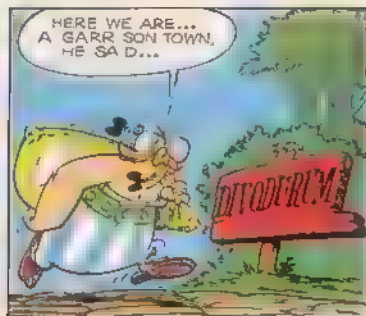


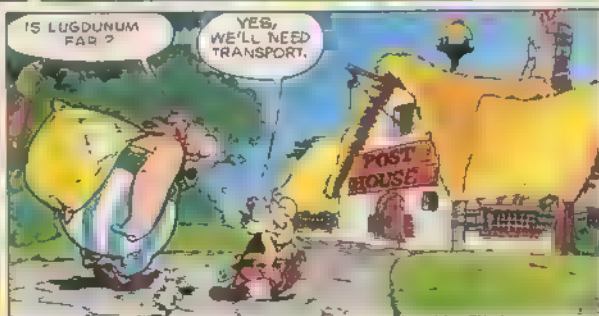
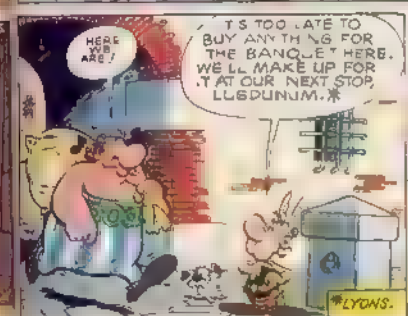
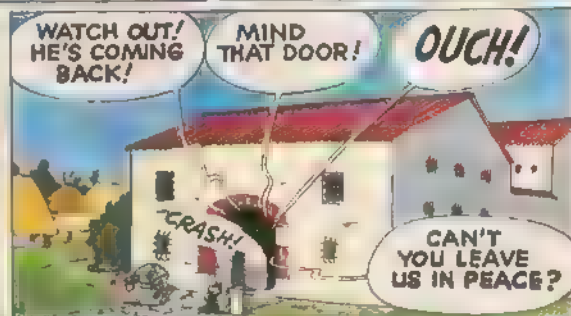
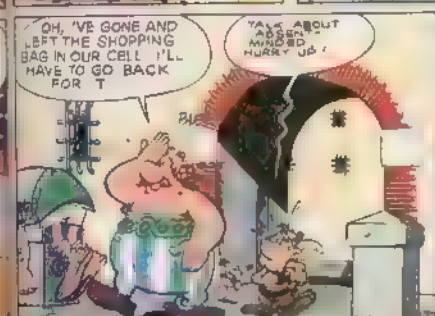
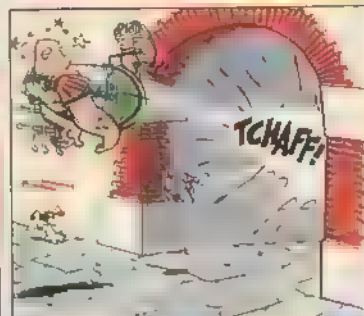
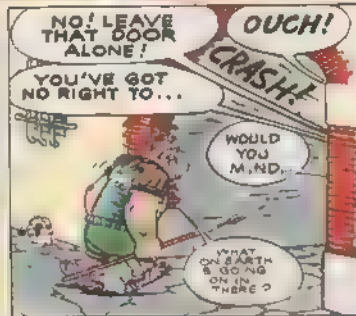
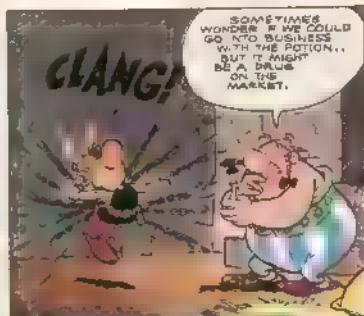
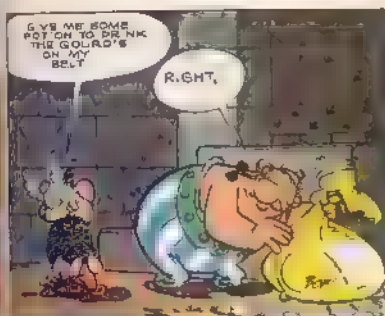


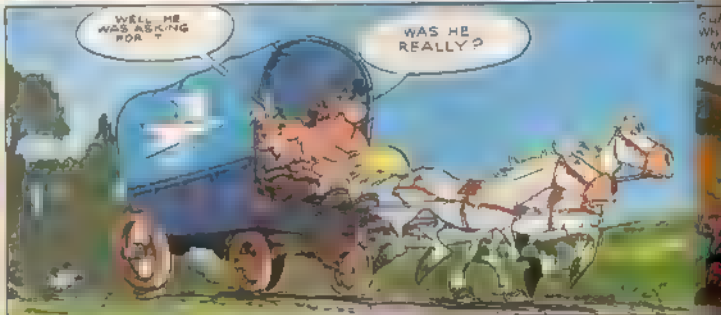
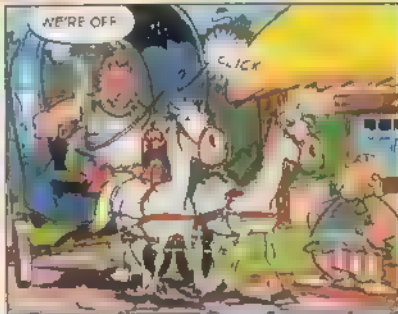
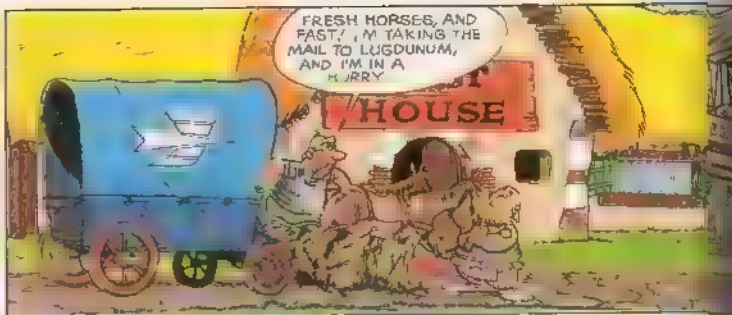


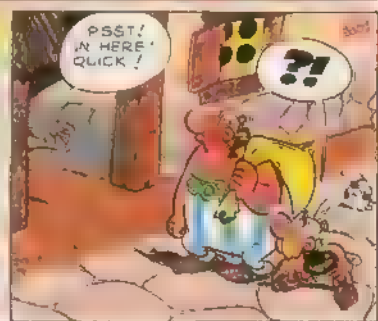
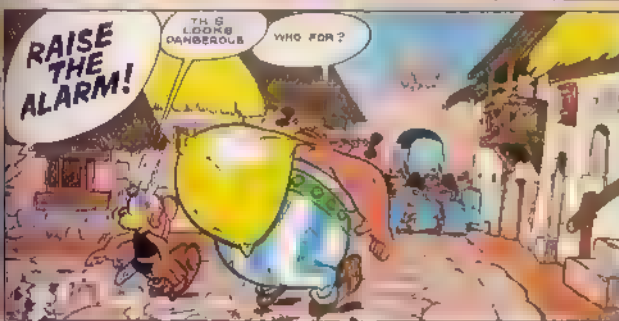
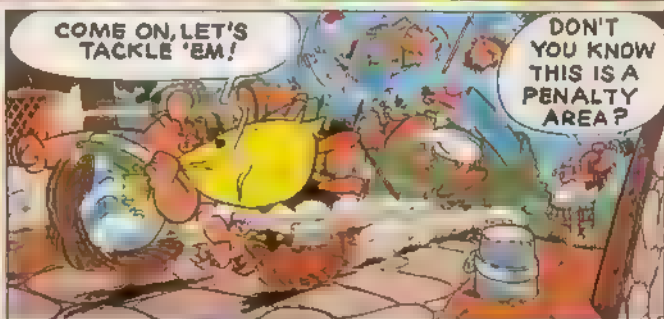
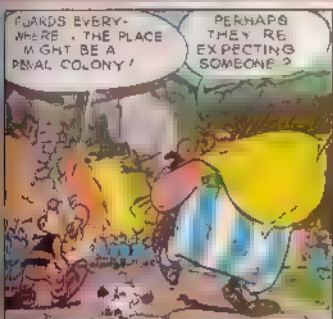
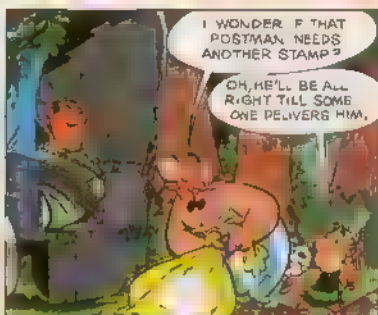
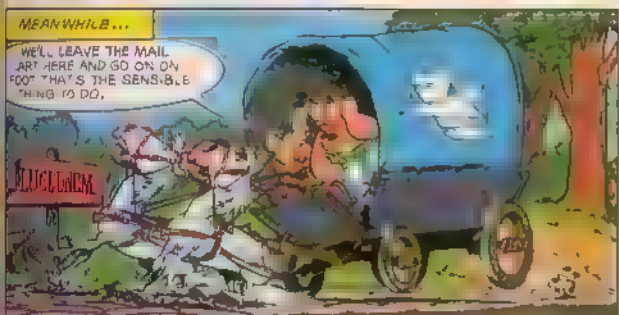


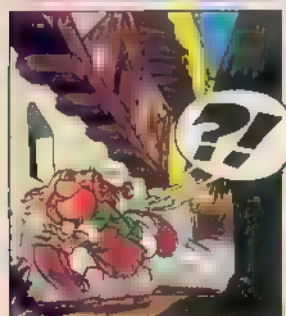
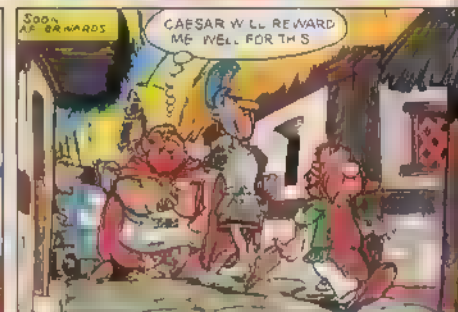
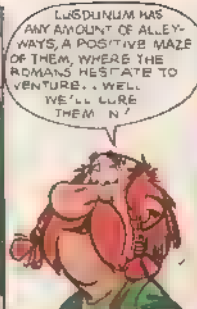
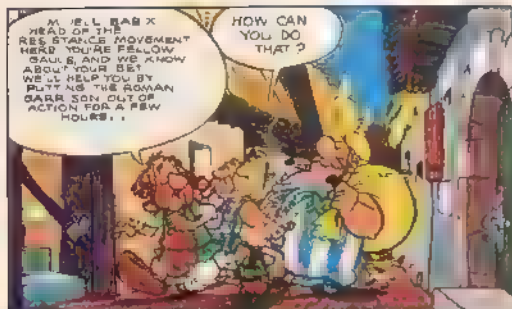


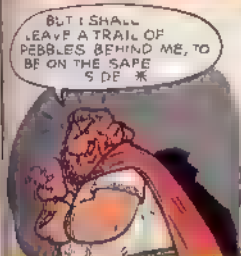
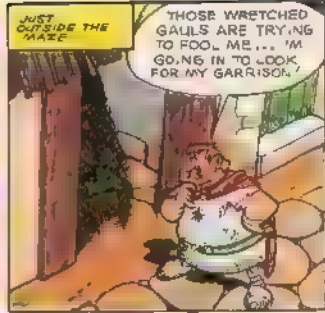




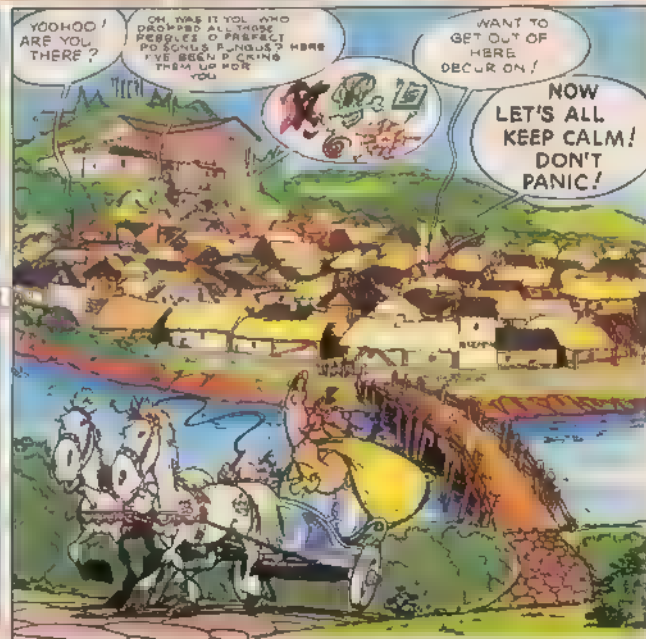
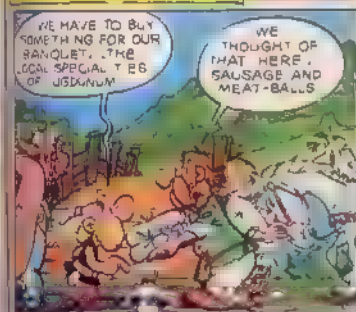


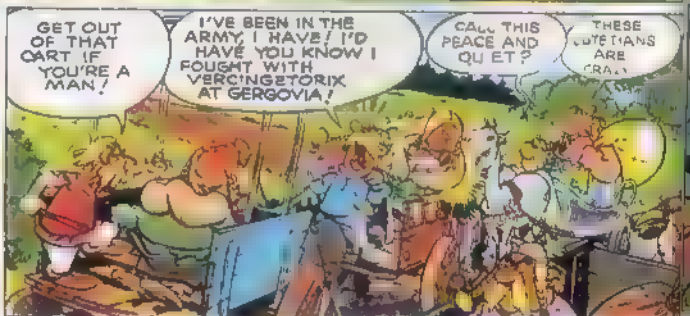
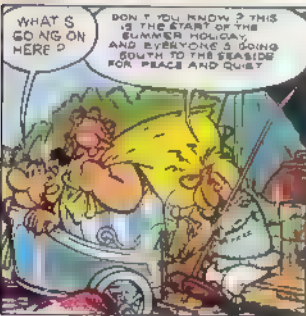
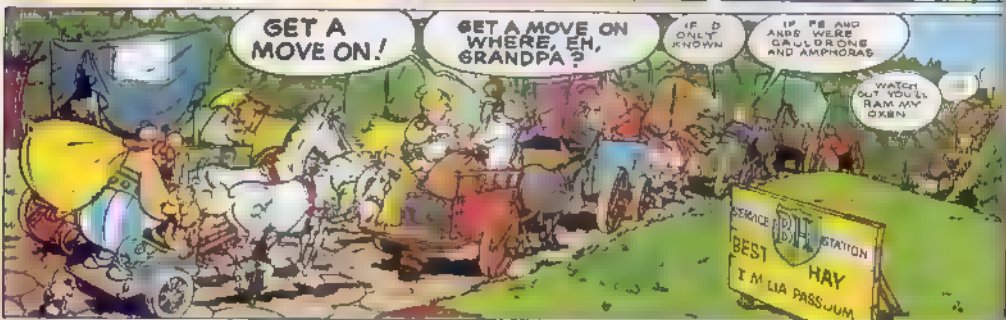
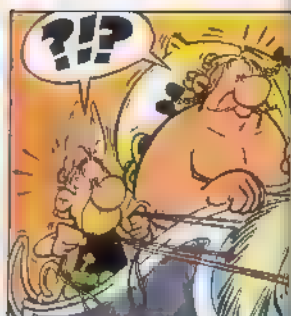
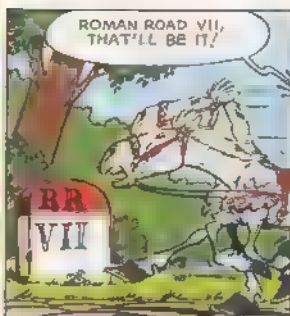
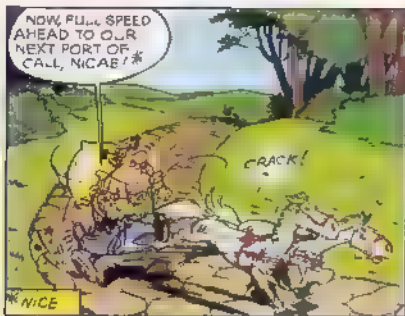


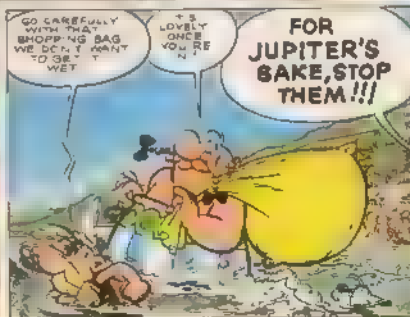
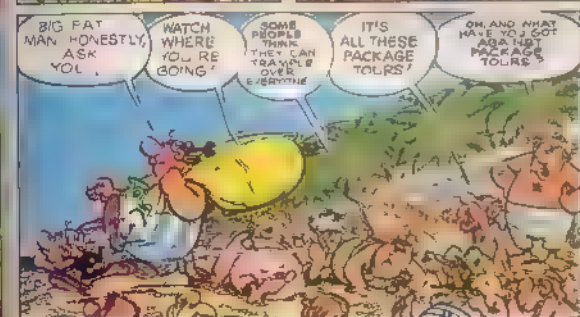
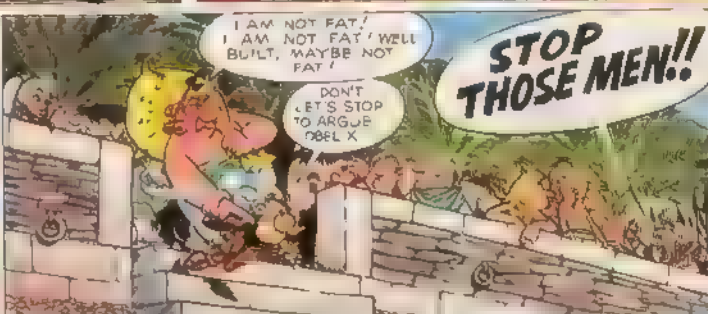
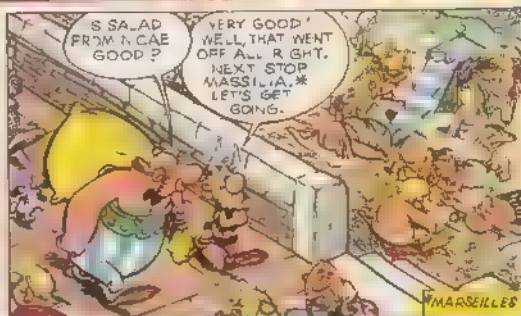
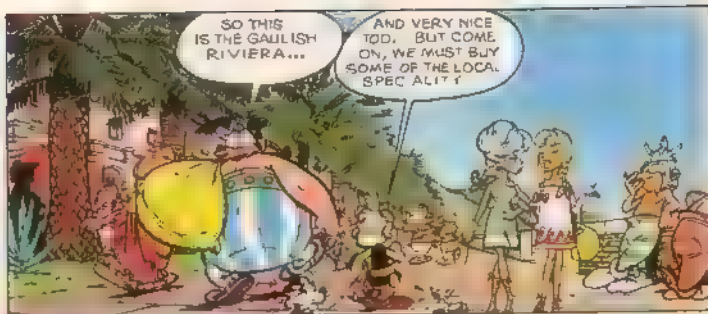


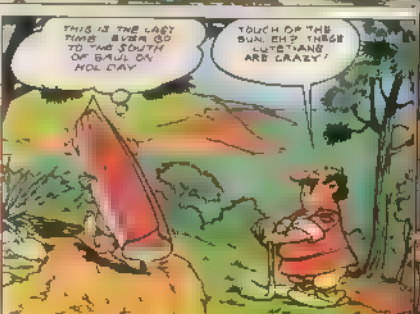
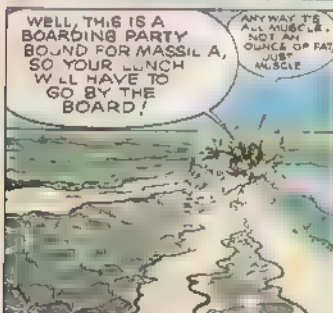
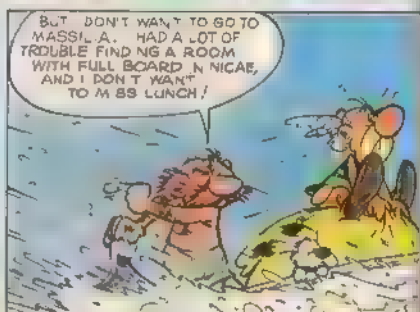
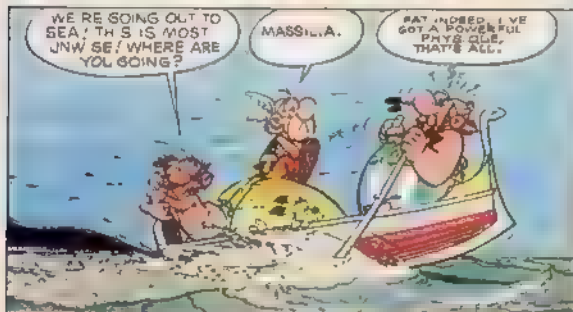
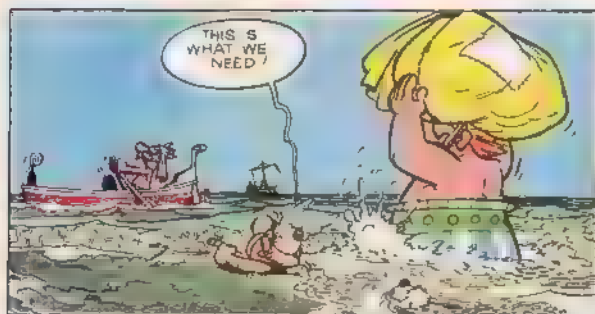


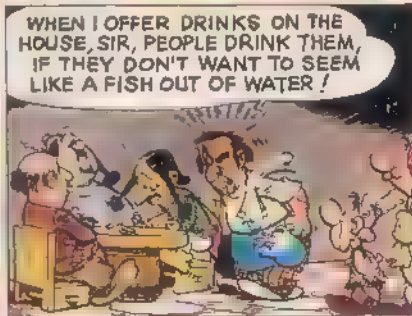
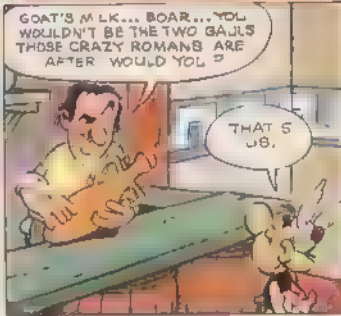
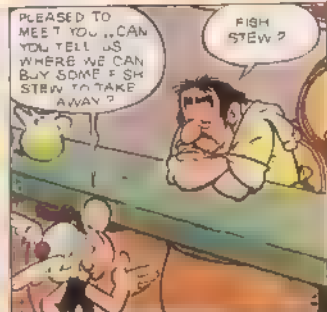
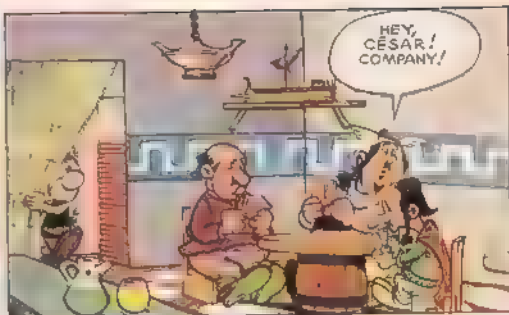
AN IDEA LATER TAKEN UP BY A FAMOUS TELLER OF FAIRY TALES WHICH GOES TO SHOW THAT IMITATION IS THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY.

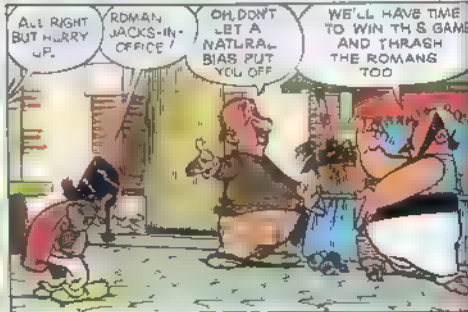
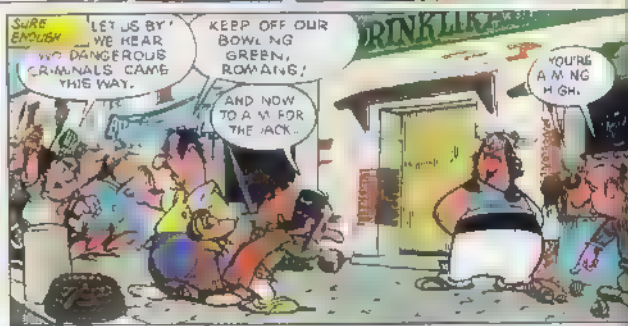
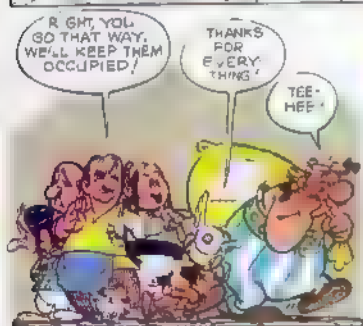
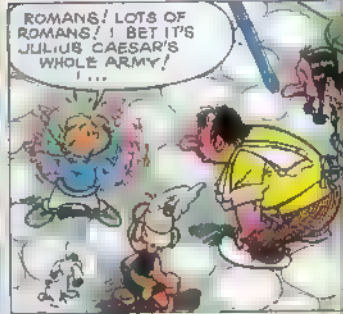
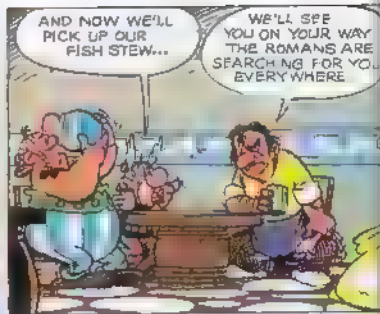
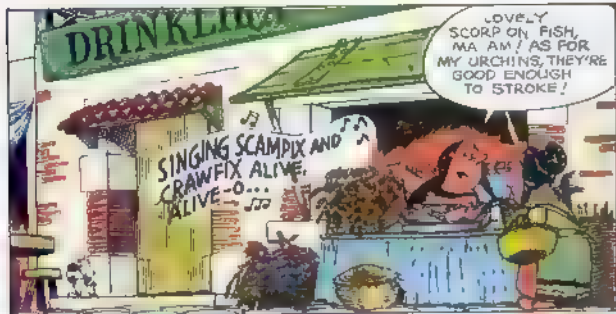


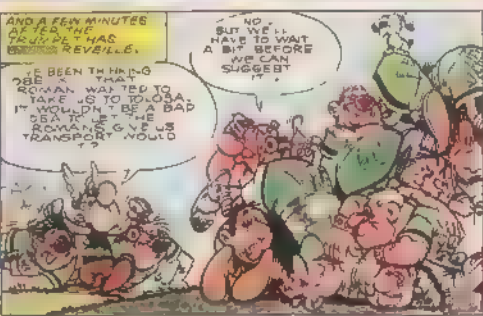
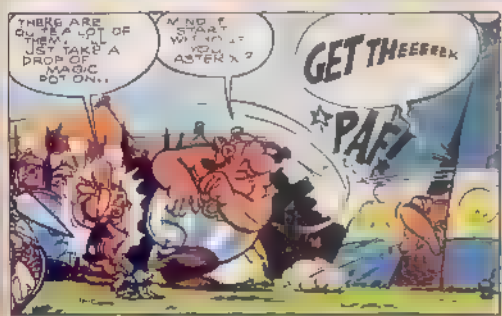
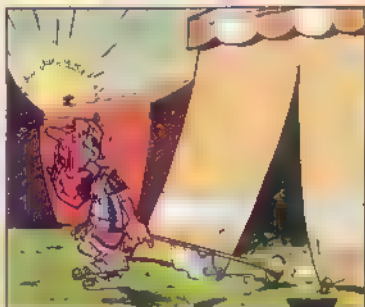
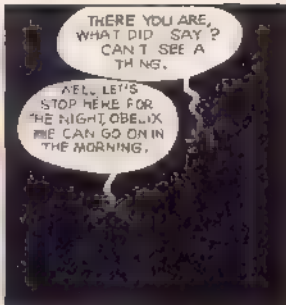
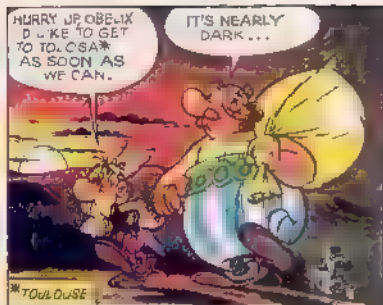


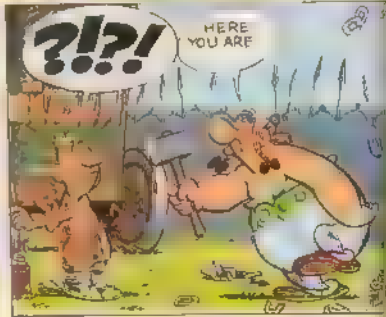
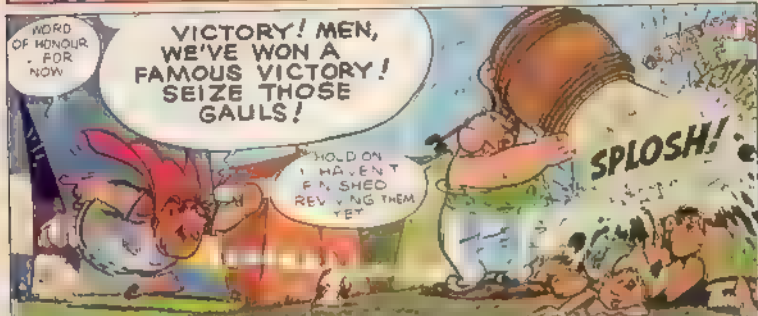
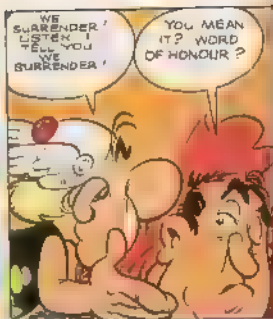
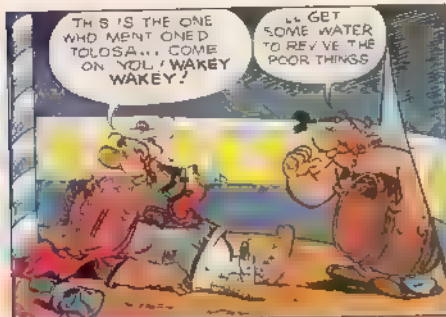


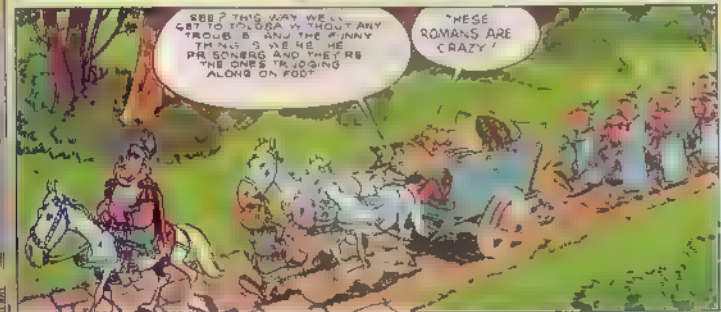
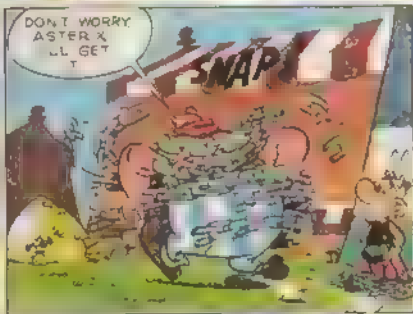
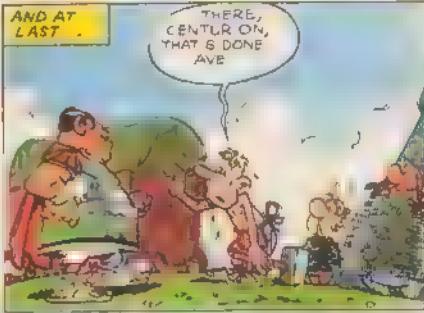
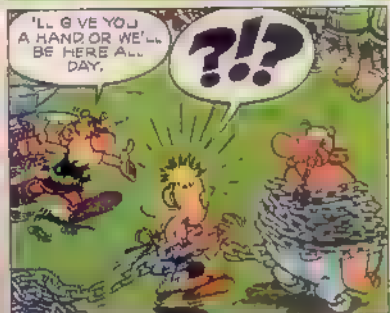
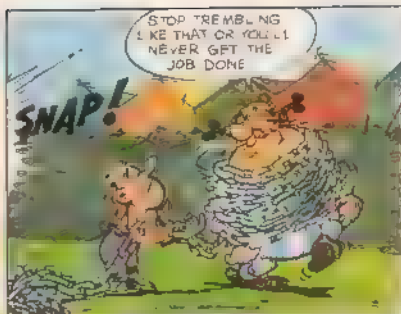
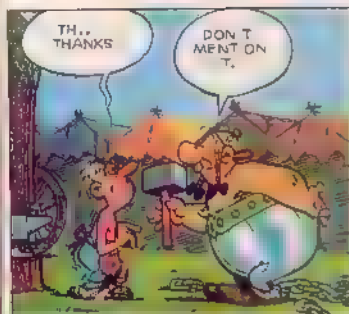


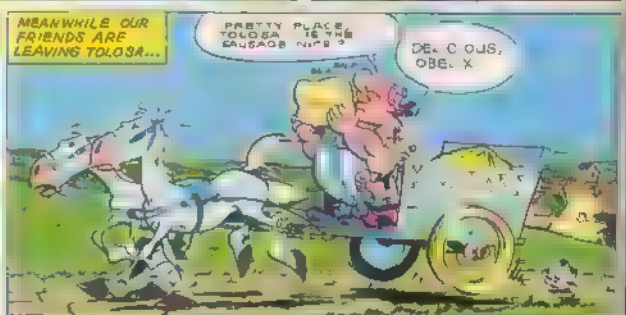
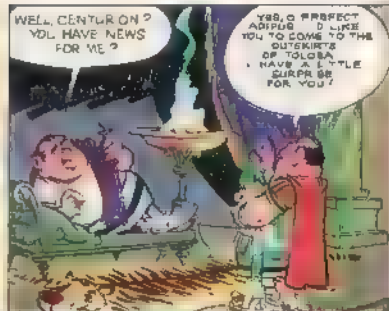


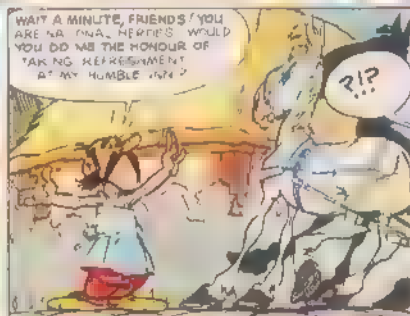
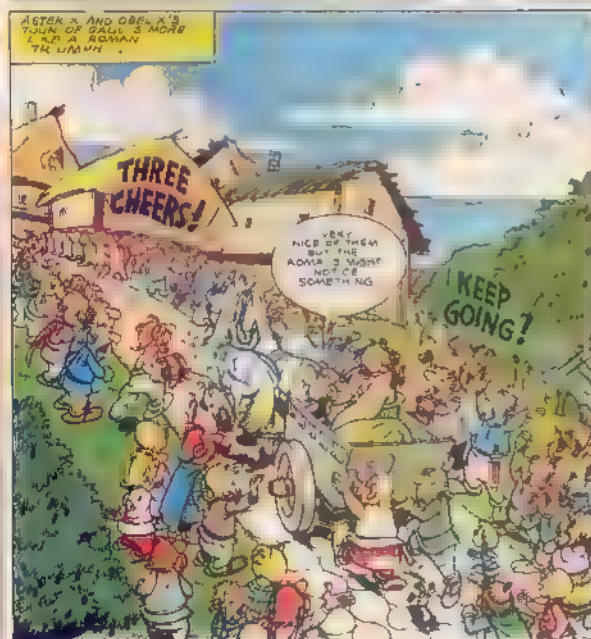
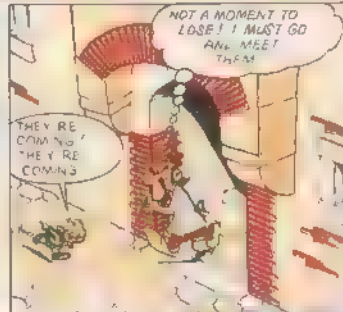
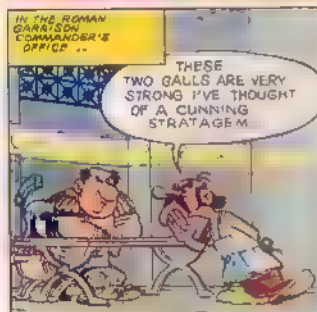
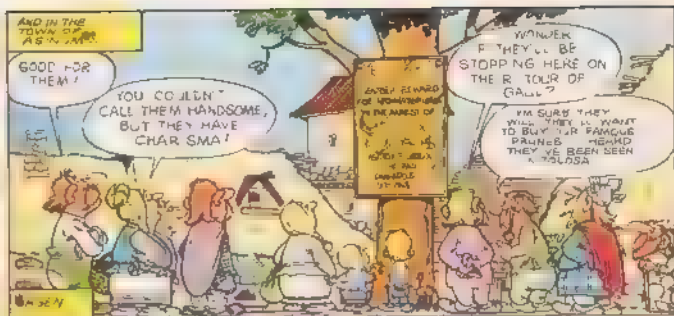
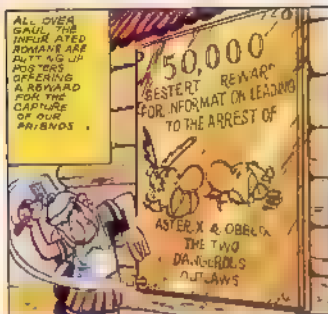


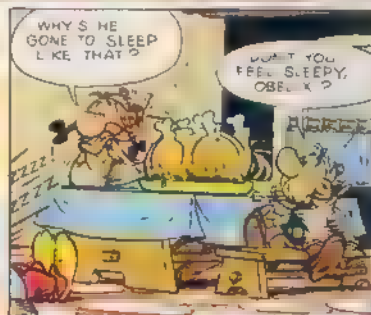
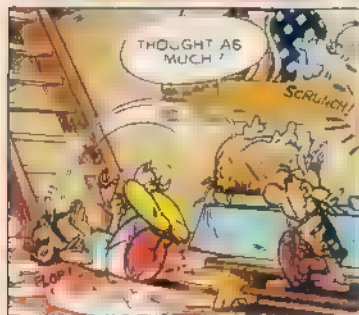
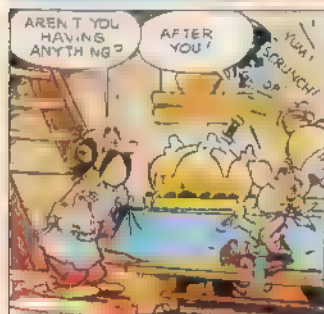
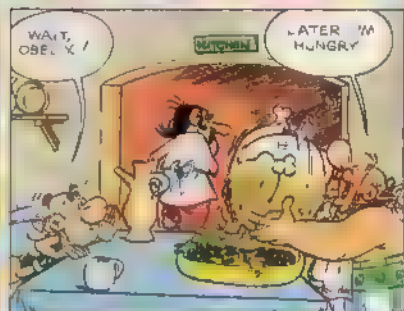
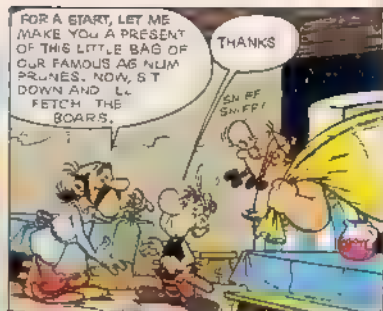
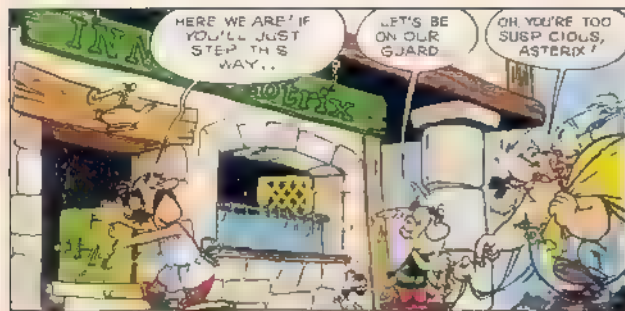


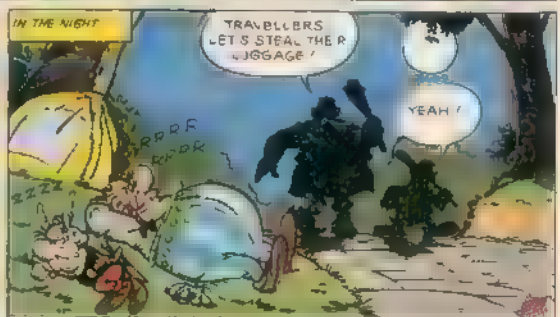
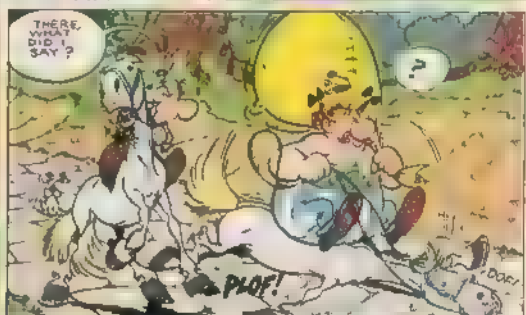
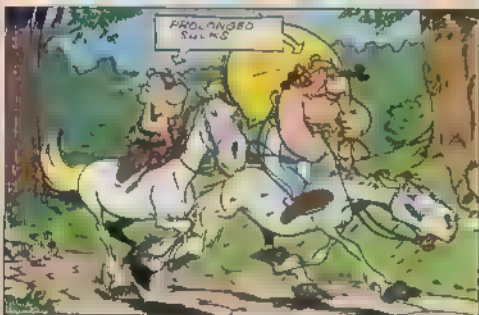
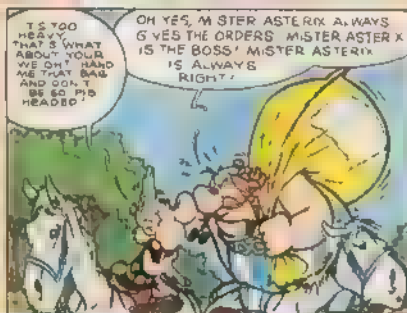
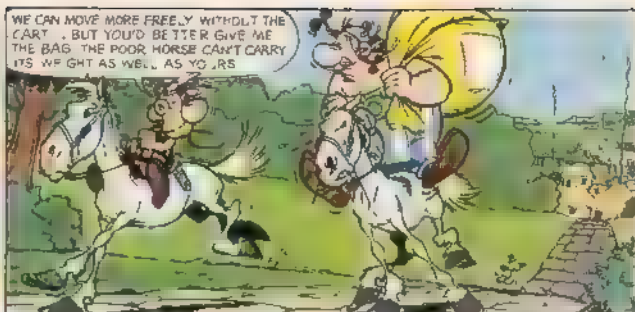
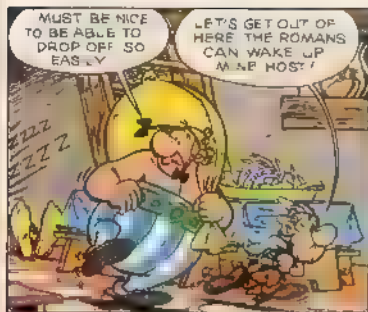


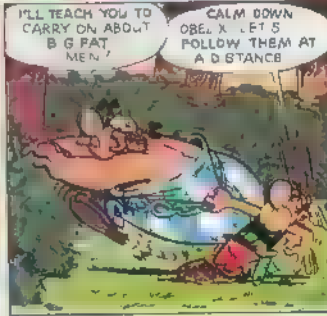
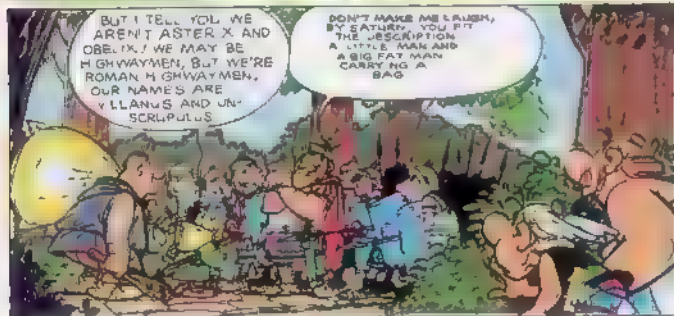
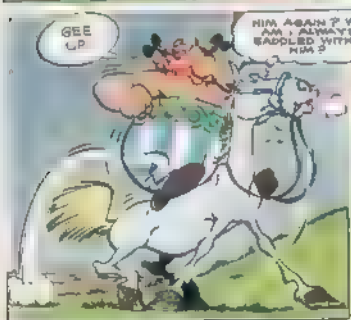
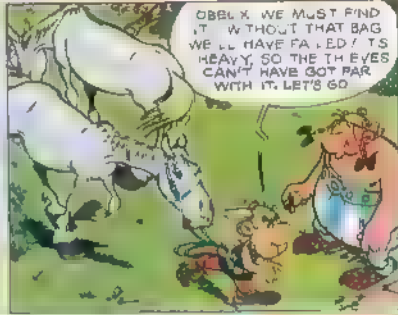
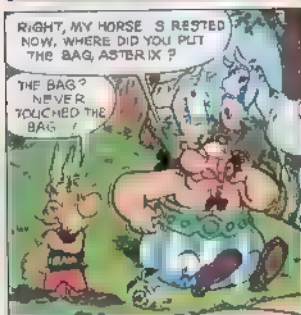
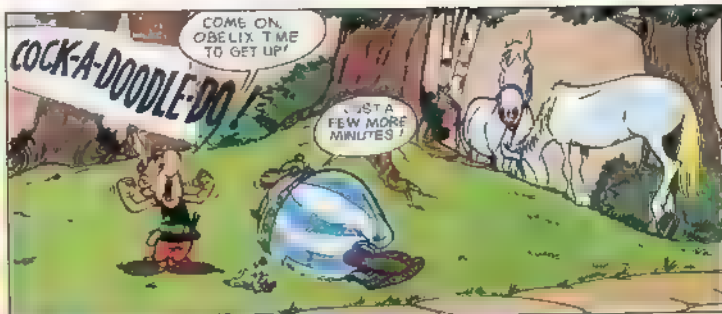


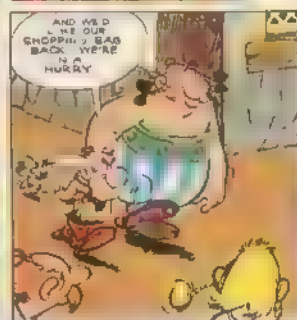
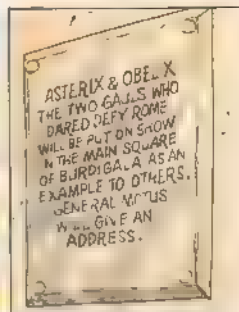


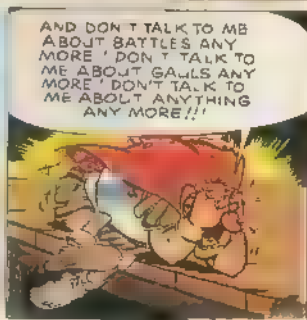
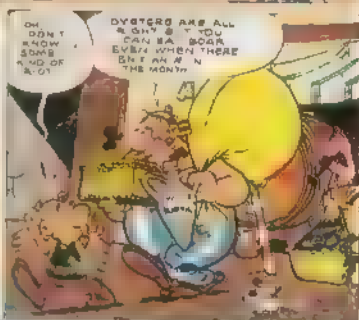
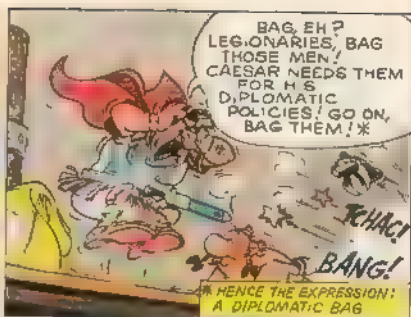


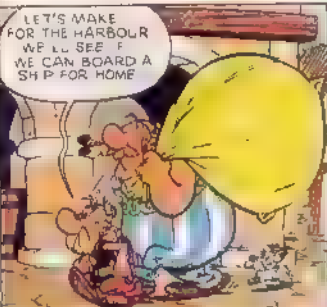




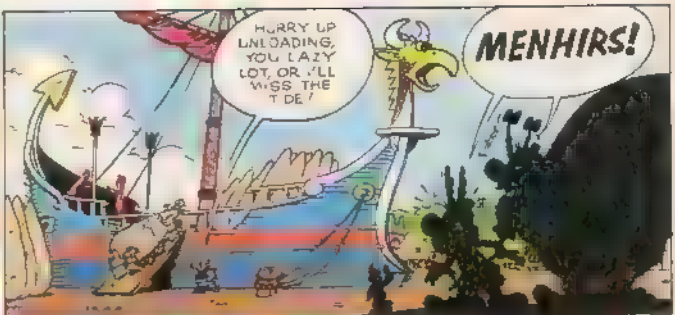






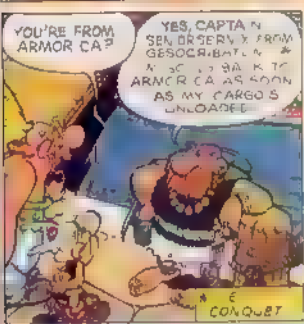


LET'S MAKE
FOR THE HARBOUR
WE'LL SEE IF
WE CAN BOARD A
SHIP FOR HOME



HURRY UP
UNLOADING,
YOU LAZY
LOT, OR I'LL
MISS THE
TIDE!

MENHIRS!



YOU'RE FROM
ARMOR CAP?

YES, CAPTAIN
SEN, OR SERVANT FROM
GESOCIBAT. I
WANT TO BOARD
ARMOR CAP AS SOON
AS MY CARGO'S
UNLOADED

CONQUEST



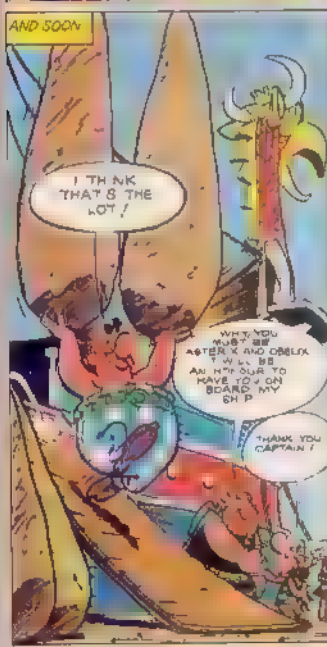
CAN
WE COME
WITH YOU?

I'LL SEE
TO YOUR
MENHIRS
I KNOW HOW TO
HANDLE
MENHIRS



SEE?

???



AND SOON

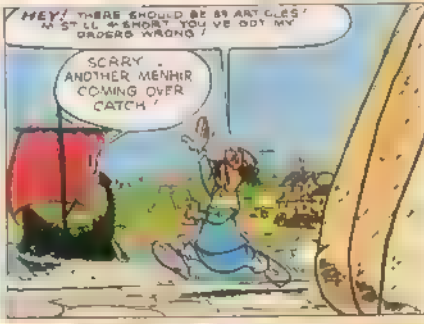
I THINK
THAT'S THE
LOT!

WHY YOU
MUST BE
ASTERIX AND OBELIX
I'LL BE
AN HYPHOUR TO
HAVE YOU ON
BOARD MY
SHIP

THANK YOU
CAPTAIN!

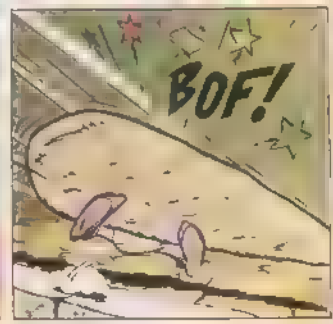


**CAST OFF
THERE!**

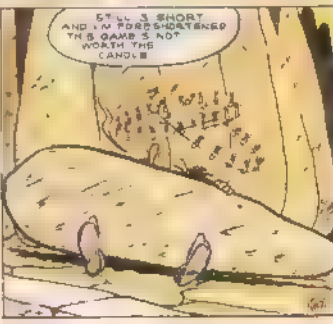


HEY! THERE SHOULD BE 89 ARTICLES!
I'LL BE SHORT YOU'VE GOT MY
ORDERS WRONG!

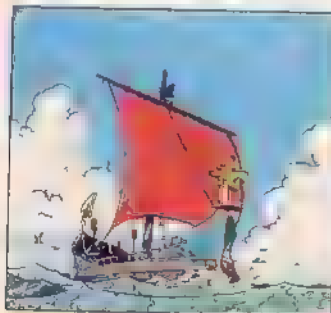
SCARY
ANOTHER MENHIR
COMING OVER
CATCH!



BOF!

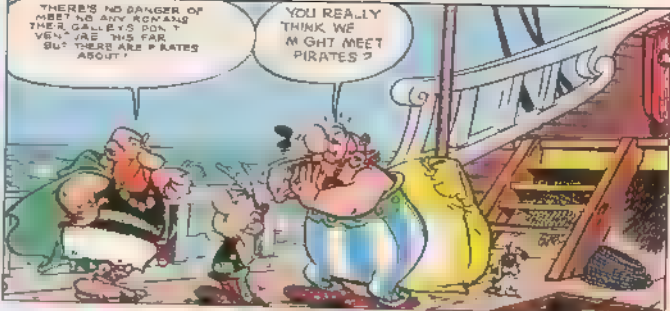


IT'LL BE SHORT
AND I'M FORESHORTENED
THE SACKS ARE NOT
WORTH THE
CANDLES



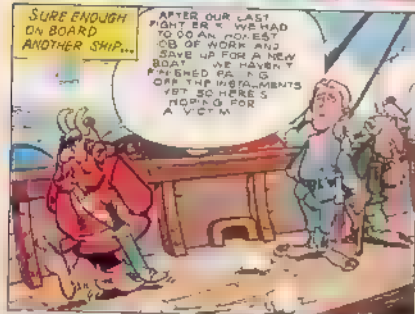
THERE'S NO DANGER OF
MEET NO ANY ROMANS
THEIR GALLEYS DON'T
VENUE THIS FAR
SO? THERE ARE PIRATES
ABOUT!

YOU REALLY
THINK WE
MIGHT MEET
PIRATES?



SURE ENOUGH
ON BOARD
ANOTHER SHIP...

AFTER OUR LAST
FIGHTER WE HAD
TO DO AN EXTRA
JOB OF WORK AND
SAVE UP FOR A NEW
BOAT. WE HAVEN'T
PAID THE INSTALLMENTS
YET SO THERE'S
HOPING FOR
A VICTIM



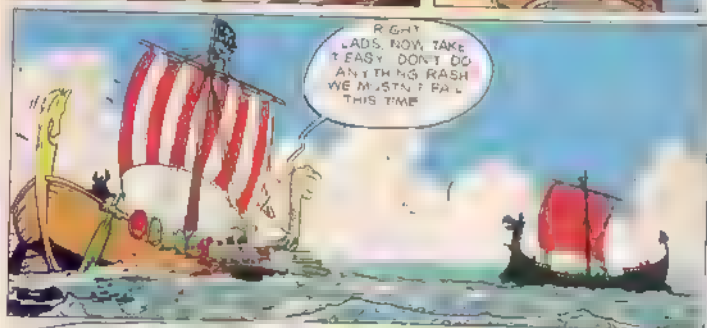
VICTIM TO
STARBOARD!



PIRATE TO
PORT!

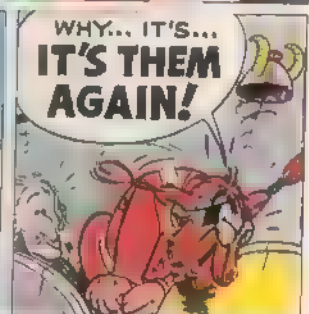


GOODY



RIGHT
LADS, NOW TAKE
EASY. DON'T DO
ANYTHING RASH
WE MUST WAIT
THIS TIME

WHY... IT'S...
IT'S THEM
AGAIN!

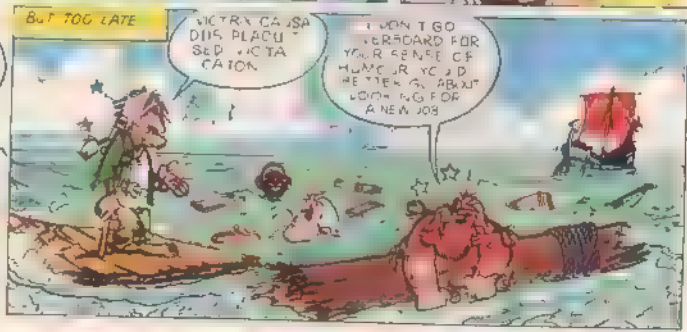


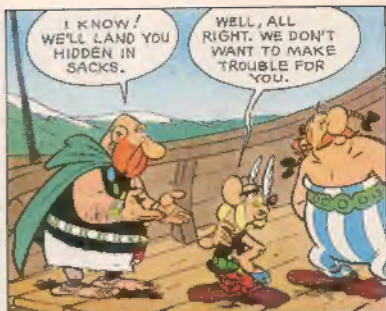
GO ABOUT!
QUICK, QUICK!
GO ABOUT!

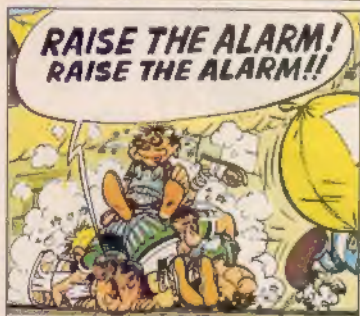
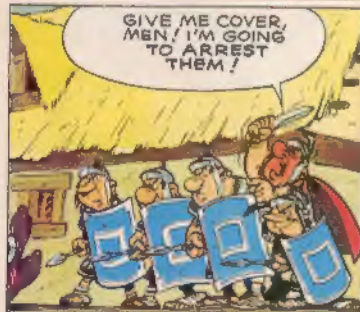
BUT TOO LATE

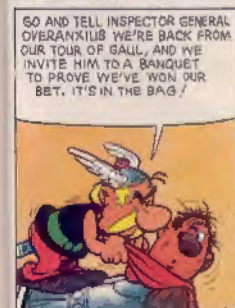
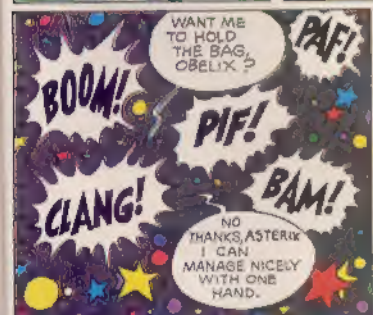
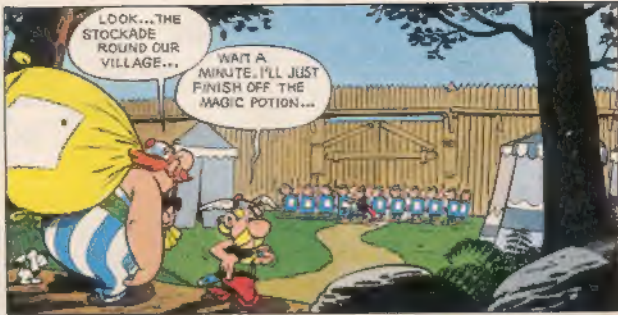
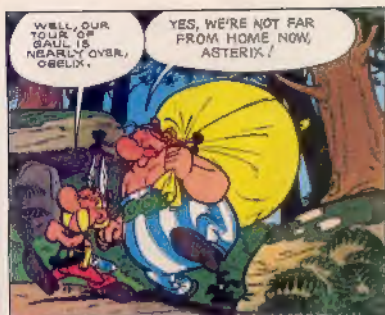
VICTIM CAUSE
THIS PLACE
IS A VICTIM
CATCH

I DON'T GO
ABOARD FOR
YOUR SENSE OF
HUMOR YET
HE'S TALKING ABOUT
LOOKING FOR
A NEW JOB





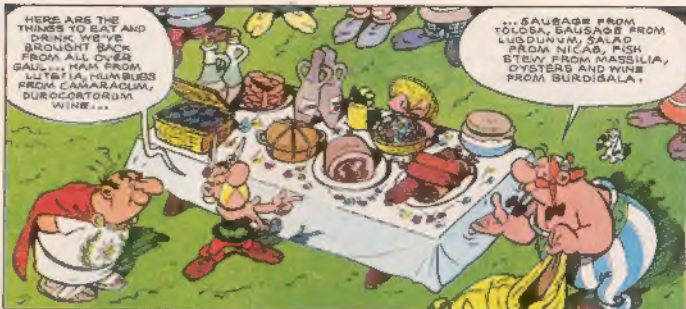




AND THAT EVENING OVER-
ANXIUS COMES, GNASHING
HIS TEETH, TO SINK THEM IN
THE EVIDENCE...



HERE ARE THE
THINGS TO EAT AND
DRINK WE'VE
BROUGHT BACK
FROM ALL OVER
GAUL... MEAT FROM
LUTETIA, HUMBUGS
FROM CAMARACUM,
DUROCORTUM
WINE...



... SAUSAGE FROM
TOLOSA, SAUSAGE FROM
LUDDUNUM, SALAD
FROM NICAB, FISH
STEVE FROM MASSILIA,
OYSTERS AND WINE
FROM BURDIGALA.

BUT THERE'S
STILL ONE COURSE
MISSING... THE
SPECIALITY OF
THIS VILLAGE!

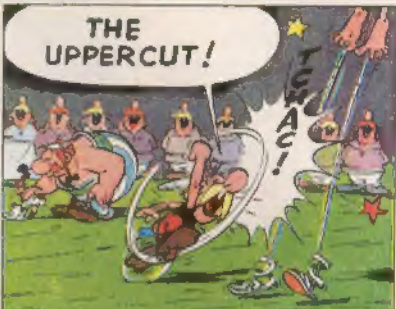


QUITE
RIGHT,
OBELEX!



O, OVERANXIUS, YOU
KNOW WHICH CUT OF
MEAT IS OUR OWN
SPECIALITY?

THE
UPPERCUT!



AND OUR FRIENDS HOLD A MAGNIFICENT
BANQUET TO CELEBRATE THEIR
TRIUMPHANT TOUR OF GAUL, PUTTING
BACK ALL THE DELICIOUS FOOD AND
WINE OF THEIR BEAUTIFUL AND
BELOVED COUNTRY... AS INSPECTOR
GENERAL OVERANXIUS COULD
COURTESY, IT IS A GENUINE THREE-
STAR MEAL...

